TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1889.

London Offices of THE SUN, All communications should be addressed to FRANK E. WHITE, 430 Strand, Loudon W. C

Percentage.

Our esteemed contemporary, the Hon CHARLES HILL JONES of St. Louis avers that it can be "demonstrated mathematically" that GROVER CLEVELAND is "the most popular living American;" and the mathematical demonstration runs as follows:

"On the 6th of November, 1888, Mr. CLEVELAND reselved more votes than were ever before cast for any human being for any position in the history of the world, and no one who reads the signs of the times can fall to perceive that his popularity has greatly in-creased since. (In a popular vote for President at this time it is probable that he would poll half a million than any candidate who could be put up against him."

Mathematical demonstration is a great thing, especially when it is made of pure assertion. It would be a great thing to be the most popular living American. Mr. Ban-BUM, Lieut.-Col. the Hon. FREDERICK CODY as the English used to say, and hundreds of other eminent moral showmen would perhaps more than compete with Mr. CLEVE-MAND on his own ground. But Mr. Jones is not regarding Mr. CLEVELAND as an eminent moral showman. He brings him forward as a sort of prodigy in the vote-getting line. Well, let us in the interest of mathe matical verity compare the percentage of the popular vote received in the various geographical divisions by GROVER CLEVELAND n 1888 with the vote received by SAMUEL J. TILDEN in 1876. We quote from the Tribune Almanac, which cannot be accused of having been partial to the Democratic records for

1	HTM.
New England4	3,28
Middle	1,08
South and Southwestern	4.81
West and Northwestern	8.70
Pacific	3.66
the service of the se	- 40WA -

The Democratic average in 1876 was 50.86; in 1888, 48.64. The result of the efforts of the most popular living American" is obvious. Mr. CLEVELAND has, it may be admitted, the art of getting votes that are not needed. The art of getting electoral votes he haan't mastered, and he never will master.

Ten Years of Desertions.

There is a curious and instructive table of ptatistics in the report of Adjutant-General KELTON, which gives by regiments and in the aggregate the losses from disability, death, and desertion in the line of the army for the ten years from July 1, 1879, to July 1, 1889.

This table shows that there were 1.765 deaths in that period, 7,269 discharges for disability, and 22,414 desertions. The actual average enlisted strength of the line was only 20,145, so that it appears by these figures that desertions alone would practically disband the army every nine years. The losses from death and from discharges for disability added to the desertions make this process of renewal necessary once in a little more than six years. Add the losses from the expiration of the term of enlistment, and it is no wonder the recruiting stations

In the cavalry and the light batteries. descritions are proportionally most numer ous; in the latter their number is extraordinary. The yearly loss from desertion in a troop of cavalry is more than six men, and in a light battery more than twelve. The light batteries, of which there are only ten in the army, lost in the ten years 1,230 men

by desertion, and all the other batteries 1,750. Remarkable as these figures are, they would be still more so but for the lowering of the average by the fidelity of the four colored regiments. The average aggregate of desertions in the eight white regiments of cavalry during the ten years was 883 each: the very lowest regimental aggregate was 703, and the highest 1,166, three out of the eight exceeding 1,000. But the average of the two colored regiments was only 257, the | day of prayer, are thus enabled to get their Ninth eavalry showing 339 for the ten year the Tenth 175. In the infanand try the result is not less remarkable. The average aggregate for the twenty-two white regiments during the ten years was 531. the highest being 676, and the lowest 301. But the average for the two colored regiments was only 82 for the ten years, the Twentyfourth Infantry having but 59, and the Twenty-fifth 104.

These facts will probably be useful for the consideration of Congress when the question of admitting colored men to the proposed new artillery regiments comes up.

College Education for Catholics in Ire

During his recent speech-making tour is Beotland Mr. Balrous defined the concessions which he was disposed to make in the matter of the higher education. His programme has since been reviewed, and, with some qualifications, approved by Dr. Walsh, the Catholic Archbishop of Ireland. It is, therefore, now worth while to point out what the Irish Secretary offers to do. When, near the close of the last session of

Parliament, Mr. BALFOUR let drop an intimation that Irish Catholics should, in his opinion, be placed on an equal footing with their Protestant fellow subjects as regards education, it was assumed that he had in view an Irish Catholic university to be endowed by the State and made coordinate in resources and dignity with the University of Dublin. Against this construction of hi meaning loud remonstrances were made not only by members of the Anglican Communion but by English Nonconformists and Scotch Presbyterians. In a speech, accordingly, delivered in Scotland, the Irish Secretary sought to quiet the remonstrants by explaining that he had no intention of bestowing on Irish Catholics a regular university, possessing the power of conferring degrees. All he had contemplated, he said, was to give them equal facilities with those now enjoyed by Protestants for obtaining the degrees and honors at the disposal of the Dublin University. To that end he would endow a Catholic collegiate institution which should stand on a level in respect of educational equipment with Trinity College, Dublin. That is to say, the twin collegiate establishments, equal as regards the amount of revenue and the scale of professorial and ing of political questions; and moral tutorial staffs, should bear precisely the same fillal or ancillary relation to the University of Dublin, which would retain the a man who gets his information by observa exclusive power of testing competence and conferring degrees. Mr. Balfour was careful to add, moreover, that non-Catholia students should be at liberty to attend lectures on secular subjects at the projected Catholic college, and that no provision of State funds would be made for the main-

Mr. Balfour's suggestion is one of the proofs that even British Tories are becoming liberalized so as to approach the position taken by the Whigs half a century ago. As regards the support of religion by the State, Lord John Russell did not go so far as DANIEL O'CONNELL, who contended that no Church ought to be endowed, but he did | the need of purifying the ballot box. There

tenance of theological teaching.

think that all should receive an endowment is some buying of votes, undoubtedly, but proportioned to their numbers. What Lord JOHN said of religion Mr. BALFOUR is now ready to say of education. Nor is it less noteworthy that a prelate so well qualified to speak for the Irish-Catholic episcopate as the Archbishop of Dublin, should, in a recent speech at Blackrock, have declared his willingness to accept the Irish Secretary's offer in principle and in most of its details. He points out that as long ago as 1871 the Irish-Catholic Bishops at a full meeting of that episcopal body issued a joint declaration to all told, is an insignificant quantity. the effect that the claims of their coreligionists as regards the higher education would be satisfied "by modifying the constitution of the University of Dublin so as to admit the establishment of a second college within it, in every respect equal to Trinity College, and conducted on purely Catholic principles. Dr. Walsh has no objection, either, to the admission of non-Catholic students. He would even acquiesce in the withholding of State endowment from theological teaching, provided the same rule were applied to Protestant Institutions. At present, however, as he reminds Mr. Balfous, profes sorships belonging to the theological faculties of three Scotch universities are partly supported by funds derived from Parlia ment. Dr. Walsh suggests that, as a matter of consistency and equity, the Parlia mentary contributions to the salaries of Presbyterian professors should be withdrawn, or equivalent assistance should be

rendered to lecturers on Catholic Church

Dr. Walsh's speech is important, as indi-

cating that, notwithstanding Mr. GLAD-

STONE'S denunciation of Mr. Balfour's

proposal, it would be accepted by the Irish

Catholic episcopate. This means that the

majority of the Parnellite members would

vote for it: indeed, Mr. PARNELL and Mr.

Sexton are understood to have expressed

prepossessions in its favor. But we must not

too hastily conclude that a bill endowing an

Irish Catholic college could be passed, for

many of the Tories and Dissident Liberals.

as well as most of the Gladstonians, would

A Great and Unlicensed Grog Shop.

The Committee on Political Reform made

report to the Union League Club a few

days ago, in which they came out boldly in

favor of high license. Here is an extract

"It is stated upon good authority that the number of

saloons in this city is about 7,500, and in Brooklyn abou

5,000, or a total of about 12,500 saloons and drinking

places. It is estimated that the average income of these places is not less than \$4,000 per annum each. This seems a reasonable estimate when we consider that rent,

attendance, light, fuel, liquora, &c., have to be paid for

to carry on the business. At this estimated rate of in-come, there is taken out of the people in these two cities for this traffic the sum of \$50,000,000 annually, if we

say nothing of the balance of the State. If such a sum

was extorted from the same class of people by a tax !

would produce a revolution in our Government. To the people who drink, this money is wasted. It is taken

\$50,000,000 would purchase in comforts, such as im

One of the most extensive of these drink-

ing places is the Union League Club itself.

The income from its bar is fully ten times

the average income of the rum shops of

the town, as this report estimates it. Were

it not for the profits it makes on the sale of

wines and liquors, the club could not be

supported. Were it not for the bar the

club could not prosper. Probably the

majority of the members at the meeting

before which the report was read were under

more or less alcoholic stimulation, and far

into the night the barkeepers were busy in

supplying orders for drinks. Ordinary bars

are compelled by law to close at one o'clock

in the morning, but the Union League drink-

ing establishment continues in full blast

until a much later hour. They are also

obliged to take out licenses, and they must be

closed on Sunday; but the Union League bar-

room pays no license, is open on all days of

the week, and is most of all patronized on

Sunday. It therefore enjoys an unfair advan-

tage over other drinking places. Gentlemen

who would be unwilling to sneak into the

side door of an ordinary liquor saloon on the

a more dignified n

their way home from church they can drop

into the club and take their beverages with

out violating any statute of the State, and

without attracting undesirable attention.

They can also find congenial company, and

can discuss questions of political reform and

expatiate on the necessity of high license

Yet it is questionable whether the tendency

to alcoholic excess is not more stimulated

by the Union League bar than by any one

of the drinking places of the town conducted

by private enterprise. The temptations to

over-indulgence are greater there than at

the licensed grog shops. The liquor is ob-

tainable at a less price, and it is served in a

more attractive manner. There are no po-

licemen about to arrest drunken men. The

barkeepers are not able to use their judg-

ment as to the amount of drink to be given

to an individual member. They must obey

his orders, no matter what his condition

may be. Women accordingly are more

afraid of a club bar than of any other, and

probably more young fellows have been led

into bad habits of alcoholic indulgence by

the drinking establishment at the corner of

Thirty-ninth street and Fifth avenue than

by any score of the ordinary rum shops of

Yet there is no club in the United States

which includes among its members so many

clergymen and moral reformers as the Union

The Purity of the Ballot Box.

The Rev. Dr. ABBOTT of Plymouth Church

wants to see some system devised to prevent

ignorant men from voting. He thinks that

we have made a great mistake in establish-

ing universal suffrage, and that to "cleans

politics" and "purify the ballot" only good

and intelligent citizens should be suffered to

But who is to determine their fitness to

exercise the privilege? What is the degree

of ignorance in a man which unfits him to

have a voice in the government of th

republic? What must be his moral qualifica-

tions, and how shall they be tested? Dr

ABBOTT would probably say that nobody

ought to vote who cannot read and write

Yet there are many illiterate people

who have a very clear understand-

excellence may be as common among

them as among their more learned neighbors;

tion and by listening is sometimes wiser

than the man of books. No part of the

public are more faithful to their political

duties, and more intelligent in the perform

ance of them, than many of those citizens

whom Dr. ABBOTT would describe as igno-

rant, and would drive from the polls. They

are ready at all times to give a reason for

the political faith that is in them, and Dr.

ABBOTT would find that their judgment in

polities is about as sound as that of the

Plymouth congregation on the average.

They vote no less honestly, and, as a whole

A great deal of nonsense is talked about

they cast their ballots wisely.

New York and Brooklyn.

League Club.

go to the polls.

and the evils of the liquor traffic.

from families, homes mothers, and children.

proved homes, clothing food, education, &c., is major part of it lost to the innocent and helpless."

distory and theology.

probably oppose it.

from the document:

The truth is that the purity of the ballot box was never before so great as it is now in New York. The system works simply and admirably. It could hardly be improved.

CLEVELAND.

Judge FITZGERALD resigned on Saturday his office of Assistant District Attorney to assume on Wednesday his new post as General Sessions Judge. There are several candidates for the place left vacant, and the one most strongly pressed by the County Democracy organization is Mr. Joseph E. Newburger, He is also the particular choice of the Hon. PATRICK KEENAN, and the reasons advanced in his favor are these:

proportionately it is more frequent in the

country than the town, and the men who sell

their votes most commonly are not the

Illiterate, but well-to-do farmers and sharp

fellows who have been to the village school.

Yet this purchased vote never decides ar

election on a large scale. Generally, too, the

voters who are paid, simply take money as

a fee for going to the polls, and when

own party. But this purchased vote,

The assertion of Mr. CLEVELAND in his

Boston speech that our elections at

was entirely without justification. They are

pure and honest, and the votes counted

record the actual political convictions of the

citizens. The cry that the last election for

President was carried by bribery was the

merest rubbish. Mr. HARRISON was elected

because the people preferred him to Mr.

this period are distinguished for corruption

they get there they vote for

L. He is Chairman of the County Democracy in the Twelfth Assembly district, which, since its organization in 1881, has steadily been the banner County Democracy district in New York. It gave Mr. GRACE, in 1884, a majority of 1,400 over Mr. GRANT: to WHITE, in 1885, a majority of 1,900 over GRANT for Sheriff, and to HEWITT a majority of 1,000 over GRANT for Mayor in 1888. It elected a County Democracy Assembly man and Alderman this year against Tam-many, and gave the successful County Democracy Senator a majority of 1,700 over the Tammany candidate.

II. He is supported by, practically, all the workers in the organization, and opposed practically, by all the silk stockings.

III. He is a lawyer of reputable standing. IV. As nominee for Judge of the City Cour last month he developed a large popularity The vote for the various candidates on the fusion ticket was as follows: FITTGEBALD, for General Sessions

.. 94,94 Aldermen. WILLIAM H. BELLAMY, for Register91.076

Why, then, should not Joseph E. NEWBURGER be considered as a fit candidate for Assistant District Attorney, provided he possesses the requisite knowledge, ability, and probity?

The letter just received from Dr. PETERS is dated at Mount Kenia, and it gives considerable reason to hope that he and his party escaped the tragical fate which was said to have overtaken them. Mount Kenia is at least seventy-five miles west of the plains of Korkorro, where the massacre was said to have occurred. If PETERS reached the west side of Kenia in safety he would have little to fear from the Somali, and though the tribes around the mountain are wild and treacherous, Thomso: and TELEKI, with forces far inferior in strength to that of PETERS, passed among them in safety. If our present information about PETERS is correct, he is the third white man since the discovery of Kenia to visit the great snowcrowned mountain through whose wide base the equator passes. Two attempts have been made to ascend it, but it is still one of the un-

GEORGE FRANCIS TRAIN is a philosopher as everybody knows, and Mr. TRAIN is particularly philosophic in saying, doubtless with accuracy, that he knows what good whiskey is though he never drinks it. To-morrow will be a particularly good day in which to follow Mr. TRAIN'S example. Be intimate with the free lunch, if you will, but steer clear of the

A Zanzibar court has decreed that TIPPU Tru shall pay \$50,000 damages to the EMIN Relief Committee for failure to carry out his contract with STANLEY to furnish carriers and supplies for the rear guard at Yambuga, which, through his failure to cooperate, was unable to snug sum of money, but the richest man in Central Africa can stand it. He has property in the city of Zanzibar, besides a large plantation on the island, and his caravan of more than 1,000 souls that reached the coast about three months ago carried ivory valued at

But this sudden condemnation of Tippu TIB is rather surprising. STANLEY, who is reported to have testified against him, could have had no evidence except such as he derived from Mr. BONNY. Major BARTTELOT Was loud in his protestations that Tippu Tib had betrayed him, but HERBERT WARD, a member of the rear column, now in this country, says that "Treppy Tra is not quite so black as he is painted," and the officers of the Congo State who have visited Stanley Falls have repeatedly asserted that Tippu Tib endeavored to keep faith with STANZEY. The facts will all be forthcoming before long.

The glad New Year will come in with Baby McKer still at the head of the Administration.

BLOWITZ writes from Paris to the London Times: "According to the best information I can obtain, the prospect of prolonged peace has never for 15 years been so tangible. Must we look out for squalls?

Jefferson Davis as a College Student. From the Louisville Courter-Journa

Judge Peters of Mt. Sterling and the late Jefferson Davis were class mates for two years at Transylvania. The Judge has set down some recollections of the Southern statesman, though it is more than sixtyfive years since they saw each other. He says: "When I was with him he was a good student always prepared with his lessons, very respectful and polite to the President and professors. I never heard him reprimanded for neglecting his studies or for mis-

conduct of any sort during his stay at the university. He was amiable prodect, and kind to all with whom he was associated, and beloved by teachers and students. He was rather tacturn in disposition. He was of good form, indicating a good constitution; attractive in appearance, a well-shaped head, and of manly bearing, esocially for one of his age. He did not often engage the sport of the students, which was playing at football, perhaps because he did not choose to lose the time from

Mr. Phelps Diplomatically Prosperous

From the London Telegraph. BERLIN. Dec. 21.-Mr. Phelps, the new United states Minister in Berlin, has in the short space of six months since he was appointed one of the American delegates to the Samoan Conference consciously or un-consciously become a persona gratissima not only to the German Emperor, but to Berlin political society. The cue of the moment in the highest official circles is t lay great stress on the advisability of maintaining ex-cellent relations between this country and the United States. Hence it was that Count Herbert Blamarch took the exceptional step of accepting Mr. Phelps's in vitation to the Thanksgiving dinner, which brought to-gether the largest number of Americans jet known at one banqueting board in Berlin.

Chained to the Ploor Until He Consented to Testify,

From the Louisville Courier Journal At Mt. Sterling last Friday James Hamilton a negro, refused when placed on the stand to testify against a man on trial for an alleged offence, whereon the Court ordered the jailer to take the witness ; prison, handouff him, and chain him to the floor. The negro was brought out the next day and gave his testimony, but broke down on cross-examination, and, with tears in his eyes, said he had been forced to give his evidence. The jailer admitted that he had carried our

Class in Mythology. "Mr. Bjones. who was Æolus?"

or Twelve Families Driven Into the Street Kesterday Afternoon. Fire visited the Waterview apartment houses at 68, 70, and 72 Columbia Heights. Brooklyn, yesterday afternoon, and drove the ten or twelve families occupying them to other quarters. The buildings are each four stories high, and they overlook the river in the rear. Each floor is arranged to accommodate a fam ily, and only two or three floors were vacant. The fire was discovered about 1 o'clock servant employed in the family of Louis Constantine on the top flat of 68. On opening the dumb waiter in the kitchen she was driven back by the smoke and flames and almost blinded. She rushed to the front parlor and told her mistress. Mrs. Constantine and the girl ran down the stairs without waiting even to collect her jewelry. In her descent she knocked loudly at each door as she passed, and shouted "Fire!" Mrs. Constantine was aware that the second and third flats were unoccupied at the time, but nevertheless she gave the alarm, for she thought that perhaps some person might be inside. Mr. N. Skilton occupies the first flat in this house. He was absent, but his wife, five children, and servant culckly followed Mrs. Constantine to the street and took shelter in the houses of their neighbors opposite. The occupants of 70 and 72 were also driven out, but they did not have to scramble for their lives. A few moments before the discovery of the fire a loud explosion in the cellar of 68 was heard, but the cause of it could not be ascertained. The fire was confined to 68 and 70. The other building, however, was drenched with water from roof to cellar, and it will be a couple of weeks before the occupants will be able to return. Among the families burned out were those of Arthur Halliday, the son of the Rey, S. V. Hailiday; Julius Wilcox, Arthur C. Bradley, Edward S. Fields, Howard W. Connolly, Charles W. Gulick, and Charles D. Spear. The loss on the buildings was \$10,000, and the occupants estimate their loss at from \$700 to \$2,000 each, so that the total loss was about \$40,000. The property is owned by the Equitable Life Insurance Company, and it was fully insured. Hefore the fire had been extinguished George Sill, aged 24, of 774 Hicks street, was arrested by a fireman, who reported that he caught him in the act of picking up some jewelry in one of the houses. In the police station some jewelry and clothing were found in his possession. children, and servant quickly followed Mrs.

EVERY DAY ADDS TO THE FUND. Something More Than \$1,000 Subscribed

to the Guarantee Testerday. Seventeen subscriptions amounting to \$1,078 came in on blanks at the Mayor's office to add to the World's Fair fund yesterday. The Committee on Legislation will be the busiest of any of the committees this preparing the memorials and bills which are to go to Washington and Albany. The rooms of the Committee on Site in the New York Times building had many visitors yesterday who were anxious to obtain copies of the man of the Fair site, but Secretary Howard had to put them off until to-day, when he expects to have a big batch from the printer's. This is the

Yesterday's subscriptions.
Previously credited in THE SUN
Remainder of amount piedged by the brewers. Total to date .. Total to data.

Through the Mayor's office:
Overin & Markeri.
Haft Waibridge.
Point Kerr
John Kerr
John Kerr
Henry H. Beise
Rannel J. Luckings.
Simon Elaut.
Autonio Aliano. Antonio Allano
Thomas Kennedy
Arnoid Brakauer
David Thompson & Son
Michael Tierney. Total.

JUDGE BOOKSTAVER QUESTIONED The Bar Association Committee About

Through the Finck Case Inquiry. Judge Henry W. Bookstaver of the Court of Common Pleas spent an hour and a half in Lawyer W. M. Prichard's office at 7 Nassat street, yesterday afternoon, before the Committee of the Bar Association appointed to investigate his relation to the Flack divorce case Ex-Surrogate Rollins, W. G. Wilson, E. Ellery Anderson, C. H. Holt, and W. M. Prichard, the committee men, were all present, and took committee men, were all present, and took turns in questioning the Judge. When it was over neither questioners nor questioned would tell what had been said. Committeeman Hoit said that the committee would probably examine no more witnesses. It will meet again at the Bar Association rooms on Saturday night, and, it is reported, will then discuss the preparation of its report to the association. The committee has previously examined Benjamin Wright, who figured as Mrs. Flack's "counsel," and Tredwell Cleveland, who is now her counsel in her genuine suit for divorce, and it has examined part of the testimony taken before the Grand Jury in the Flack case. It cannot yet be ascertained what the committee thinks yet be ascertained what the committee thinks of Judge Bookstaver's connection with the case

Checks that Can't be Raised.

From the Washington Post,
The United States Treasurer to-day mailed 34,009 checks, aggregating \$7,430,961, in payment of interest due Jan. 1 on registered 4 per cent bends and All these checks are punched with figures represen ing the amount for which they are drawn, and are the

first checks so marked ever issued by the Treasury De partment. The idea of punching the checks originated with Treasurer Huston, and is intended as an additiona protection of the interests of the Government in pre venting the raising of checks.

Yes: Let Him be Sent Home

From the Providence Journal.
Recorded editorially in the columns of the Philodelphia Press is found this highly interesting theory: "There is no place like away from home for a smart Philodelphian." We shall continue to maintain that the fittest place for a smart Philadelphian is Philadelphia. For instance, there is John Wanamaker, both the man and the trade mark.

Two Washington Buds From the Washington Capital. Miss Hattie Blaine, youngest daughter of the

Secretary of State, and Miss Rachael Cameron, young-est daughter of Senator Don Cameron, w'll be two of the handsomest debutantes to be introduced to society early in the new year. The Dynamo as a Surgeon. From the Hartford Times. The dynamo has been used several times in

this city to extract bits of steel which have lodged in the bands and arms of men, inflicting painful and highly inflamed wounds. The machine took out the particle

Wanamaker Basely Deceived. John Wanamaker in the Philadelphia Press. We expected to give you a full regular-made first-class muslin chemise to-day for twenty-five cents but our manutacturer did not keep his word.

Playing It on the Pale Face. From the Omaha Republican, Spotted Wolf, the crack shot of a medicine company, entered a turkey-shooting contest in disguise at Marion on Monday and bankrupted the owners of the scheme by killing all the turkays.

From the Atlanta Constitution

Patrolman Rob Ozburn and several others were talking yesterday in front of police headquarter and sometow or other the talk turned on war-time posity.
"I remember one poem," remarked the Sergeant
"that the Texas fellows used to sing a good deal. I
thought it was frat-class poetry for those days. The
first verse went like this:

'You may talk about your Jackson, And Beautersard and Lee, But J. E. Hood of Texas l'inyed h—ll in Tennessec.' "That's the only verse I remember, and the chorus

Old Jackson never lost a fight, And Lee done pretty well, But J. B. Hood of Texas Did certainly play h—II," For Those About to Swear Off.

From the Minneapolis Tribun-Experienced quitters tell us that the nub end

The most notable feature of the January Century is the autobiography of Joseph Jefferson. We all know how great an actor he is; but it is not too much to say that he writes as well as he acts. Frof Fisher's article on the nature and method of revelation will also be studied with great interest by a vast number of readers. The "Present Day Paper" of this number is by samuel W. Dike, and it is devoted to the Problems of the Family. The "litatory of Abraham Luncolp" contains the story of his assassination and the fats of the assassina. There is an unusual variety of miscel-laneous articles. It is a very superior magazine.

Ninety-five Per Cent, of the Medlums of TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: I regret exceedingly that a writer in THE SUN should suspect me of having been one of the "proposed jurors" in the late celebrated action for libel. This places me at a serious disadvantage. Those jurors declared that they would not believe a witness who should testify that he had seen a small bit of lace develop into a human being, whereupon this correspondent says: "What is this but ignorance and mental degradation of the worst type?" One dislikes to be considered ignorant and degraded

And now I beg you will allow me to state that I have not attacked Spiritualists nor spiritualism. Here are the offending words: "It matters not what distinguished scientists have said as to the phenomena of spiritualism, the fact stands that the materializing medium of to-day is a gross impostor. This so-called materialization is a ile. Sensible people who have witnessed it know it to be a lie, and re-peated exposures prove it a lie." I am talking here about the sort of materialization that was the occasion of the late suit for libel. I specify it "the materialization of to-day." It matters not what scientists like Wallace and Crookes have said regarding their investigations, made a few years ago, this business of to-day is a gross fraud, an unblushing imposture. Spiritualism may be true; this materialization is a He. And I stand by these words. Look at its history from the time of the Katie

King business in Philadelphia, in the early seventies, until now. In that instance so shrewd and keen an observer as Robert Dale Owen was duped into believing that he had witnessed the instant creation of a perfect human body, endowed with an intelligent spirit, and he told his story in the Atlantic Monthly. Then followed the catching of the ghost, a confession, and complete explanations of the tricks. Take the case of James A. Bliss and wife, in Philadelphia, later on, While these people were carrying on their imposture there were scores of men and women who would have gone willingly into a court of justice and sworn that at the scances they had met and recognized dead friends. While the showmen were temporarily absent a newspaper reporter got into their house disguised as a plumber. He found a trap door in the cabinet communicating with the cellar, and no end of wigs, masks, &c. Bliss was sent to prison. The exposé was complete, the facts I have mentioned were fully verified, and yet Mrs. Bliss is one of the materializers of to-day, and she is in "good and regular standing."

There was Gordon, famous in New York at one time, caught and proved to be an impostor as far back as 1871. He was exposed by spiritualists, just as the majority of these fakirs have been exposed. And yet this same Gordon went over to Philadelphia, where he opened a chost shop and did a thriving business for years. Men like the late Thomas R. Hazard came out in his defence, and published long articles to prove him a genuine materializing medium Column after column of such matter can be found in back numbers of the Banner of Light, I don't know whether Gordon is dead or alive but if alive he is undoubtedly engaged in this fake business, and represents "the material-

but if alive he is undoubtedly engaged in this iake business, and represents "the materializing of to-day."

The skill of these people in their art can be best illustrated by reterence to the experience of no less a scientific observer than Alired itussell Wallace. While in Boston, about two years ago, I remember distinctly reading an account he published at the time of his visit to a scance given by one of Boston's most noted materializors. Mr. Wallace expressed himself as satisfied with the genuineness of the materializers and the genuineness of the materializers. Mr. Wallace expressed himself as satisfied with the genuineness of the materialized specimens of humanity that he had seen on that occasion, and yet it was all coarse and vulgar trickery, for not long afterward the medium was fully exposed. Three confederates were caught. Mr. Wallace's commendatory report may be found by consulting the Banner of Light, and an account of the subsequent wreck of the show by referring to one of the Boston daily newspapers.

One of the early swindlers was a woman living in the central part of New York whose name I do not now recall, but a dozen years ago she was a mighty materializer. I well remember the account a friend gave me of a visit to her humble dwelling, and how he saw and conversed with a brother who was killed at Gettysburg. His sincerity impressed me greatly at the time. The modium submitted to all sorts of tests by tying. Her varticularly strong hold was to vanish into impalpable air to demanterialize. She would enter her cabinet, a spirit would come out into the room, and the skeptic would be requested to go into the cabinet and see what he could find. He found only the vacant chair. But when they laid hands on the spirit outside, as some sacreligious person subsequently did, there was no spirit in their clutch—nothing but a tricky old woman. This ended her public career. She had not the nerve to go right on with her business, as a score of other fakirs have done, after exposure. A few years ago I heard th for what they saw. The medium was a Mrs. Hull, who was accompanied by her hurband. Mr. and Mrs. Hatch, since dead, were sincere and excellent people and believers in the dot of her parents, had bassed out of their sight into the immortalife. Hoping that they sight hear from her, Mr. Hatch invited the Hulls to his house, and when they were once in they remained. In all the history of infamous things done by these infamous traders and speculators in human affection. If can recall nothing so shameful as the imposture I am now a Massimath had applicably and the manual forms and speculators in human affection. If can recall nothing so shameful as the imposture I am now a Massimath had applicably not marvels, which they could only do by receiving a ticket of invitation. Before I am done with this case I shall satisfy every man who is not a hopeless idlet, who reads these lines, that the woman Hull was as vie an impostor as ever lived. And now note right here a most astonishing fact, namely, that Mr. and Mrs. Hatch both fully believed that they recognized. Hatch both fully believed that they recognized in the world of the wonder hunters gathered in one parior, which was dimly lighted, the medium perform her tricks? The answer to this question is simple and conclusive. Between the two pariors of the house, the doors being open, a curtain was hung. The wonder hunters gathered in one parior, which was dimly lighted, the medium retiring into the other when the hour for materializing arrived. If the medium? Certainly not, Every doubt was silenced when the bour for materializing arrived. If the medium? Certainly not, Every doubt was silenced when the bour for materializing arrived. If the medium? Certainly not, Every doubt was silenced when the spirit showed, by reflected light, the form of the medium stretched out on a sofa, and in a dead trance of course. Many spirits came, one at a time, but the chief attraction was the beloved daughter. She would embrace the father and mother, take with the medium recall and the course

in the habit of anneuncing to his audience the advent of "Indian Jim." a dangerous abortiginal character. People were warned to be on their good behavior for fear of bodily harm. Then the showman would proceed to close a pair of sliding doors, which shut off the cabinet, and the next instant "Jim." came into the room with a bound and a wild whoop. Now the doors had not only been closed, but locked, and the key handed to a skeptic. The indian came apparently through the doors. How was it done? After Mr. Caifrey's show had been wrecked it was discovered that a large piece had been sawed out of one of the doors, which, of course, did not appear when it was pushed back. When the door was drawn out the hole was hidden by an over-hanging curtain. "Jim" came through a door, but it was not a solid door.

If this whole materialization business is not a ite how did it happen that the bottom fell out of the late libel suit? A materializer wanted £20,000 damages. A Chicago newspaper publisher had charged her with boing a vile awindler," and with using "trick cabinets." She did not dare come into court are therein contained.

A correspondent, over the signature of Common Sense, "calls attention to the fact that in a recent instance it was a Spiritualist who detected and exposed the recent alleged dishonest trickers, I am aware of it and am well acquainted with the gentleman, and have only to say in answer that the intelligent part of spiritualist who detected and exposed the recent alleged dishonest trickers, I am aware of it and am well acquainted with the gentleman, and have only to say in answer that the intelligent part of spiritualism has long ward an unrelenting warfare against this species of imposture. "Common Sense" desires to know if it would not be foolish to call all bank Presidents and cashiers theves because one of these occasionally proves untrue to his trust and skips to Canada. Vell, when statistics go to show that ninstype room of a accident and degraded." This is nor an attention and degraded would have b

bodlly form. And that he was fully materialized no room was left for doubt. They sat down together and ate a lunch and drank a bottle of wine.

I am told that people recognize their dead friends. So they do, I have seen a young woman come out of a cabinet and obtain recognition as a sister, as a daughter, as a flancée, and lastly she tried to make me believe that she was my grandmother. There is no half and half in this wretched business. It is all an imposture, every bit of it. Hand Sense,

WHAT WE ARE ALL TALKING ABOUT

"Lots of time will be saved by letter writers next hours to scribble all over a piece of scratch paper the dates 1889 and 1890. "See here," he continued, pointing with his pen at the paper. "Do you know that? can write 1800 much faster than 1809, although I have had the advantage of a year's practice with the latter date? It is only the difference of a fraction of a second, o course, but when you add together those fractions of seconds hundreds of thousands of millions of times they go to make up a very respectable period of timeperhaps a century or so in all. We haven't had such at easy date to write as 1800 since the year 1860. All the dates from 1870 to 1880 have been awkward for pen men. Try it a few times and see how easily you can put 1890 on paper. Then next week you will wonder why you will persist in writing the awkward 1889 and scratching it out again. But you'll do it all the same."

People who cross the big bridge and also ride on the third avenue elevated road wonder why Engineer Martin does not adopt the iron railing in use in the City Hall station of the elevated road. If an iron railing be so much less danger of a panic and the terrible re sult of pushing a lot of people from the now unguarded platform to the track under the wheels of the cars. "It is the fashion nowadays for alarmists to see al

sorts of danger in electrical contrivances," said Mr. Franklin L. Pope yesterday, "and I am therefore not surprised to see something of a fues made about the street car wires in Boston; but it is all ponsense." Mr Pope is one of the highest authorities on electricity in another for twenty-five years "Overhead wires," he continued. "for the propulsion of cars have never yet killed a man, and there are hundreds and hundreds o miles in operation in the country. Moreover, they never will kill a man. They are run at a maximum voltage of 500, sufficient to give a severe and disagree able, but not a faral, shock. I think it might possibly kill a horse, for somehow horses seem to be more sensi-tive to electricity than human beings. They might also set fires under favorable conditions, for it is a curious fact that wires of low potentiality are more liable to ignite substances than wires of the higher voltage. But considering how street car wires are strung and the are with which they are kept, it is who that any calamity will ever occur from use of them."

Foreign Notes of Real Interest. "The Merchant of Venice" has been produced at the

The Bank of France has at the present \$250,000,000 in gold in its celiars.

The crowning of the Czar as King of Poland is talked

of in St. Petersburg.

Gen. Cluseret has introduced a bill in the French Chamber to stop deciling.

The five-ball over is pronounced, since the recent

County Councils on cricket, a great boon.

There is a rumor that the Russian Government intende shortly to issue an enormous military loan. A ball in the "underground" apartments at Welbeck Abbey, the Duke of Portland's, was a grand affair. M. de Brazza, the African explorer, will marry Mm. Syamour when he gets back from his last expedition. The South Devon hounds took their followers a chas-

of twenty-five miles lately, the fox finally being left to continue his gallant run in the darkness.

Last summer the Queen of Italy attained the loftless point ever reached by a European sovereign, by the scent of the Breithorn, 13 785 feet.

Marie Roze has bought the large estate of Chateau neuf, in the department of the Loire, and is further in vesting some of her savings in building a house. The Swiss Nationalrath have granted the sum of 3,000,000 francs toward fortifying the 8t Gothard passes, and 6,000,000 will be spent in all on this project Earl Spencer's library at Althorp is to be dispersed. It comprises one of the finest collections of rare and

prious books in England, numbering over 50,000 vo E The Papal soldiers have given up their former head dress, and wear homets after the pattern in use in the German army. The rest of their uniform remains un

The post of organist of Truro Cathedral recently became vacant, and there were upward of one hundred and fifty candidates. The salary, of course, in such a William Richards, aged 24, was "larking" with his sweetheart, when she happened to scratch his thumb

The scratch, which festered, resulted in blood poisoning A bitter feud is said to have broken out recently be tween "an ancient and powerful ducal family and the royal circle" of such a nature that had it happened centuries ago there would have been a touch of civil

The last return of English naval courts martial show that an ordinary seaman was sentenced to eight years' penal servitude for striking an officer and two others condemned to five years' penal servitude for a similar The French Civil Service costs more now than it did twenty years ago. In the Budget of 1871 the amount demanded under this head was £10,120,000. In the

Budget of 1830 the same estimate figures for within a trifle of £17.0-0.001. And there is said to be nothing whatever to show for the increased expenditure. A dressed beaf question has arisen between France and Germany. The butchers employed in slaughtering sheep at the great shambles of La Villette have held at

indignation meeting to protest against, the importation of slaughtered sheep from Germany to their detriment. They favor the importation of live animals but are against imported dressed beef.

The trials of the new submarine boat Le Gymnote at
Toulon are being continued under the supervision of

Admiral Duperré. The Gymnote has passed through all the tests to which she has been subjected with per-fect spacess. On one occasion she went about three-quarters of a mile under water, and she dived under the ironclade at anchor with the greatest case. The periscope permits the commanding officer to distin-guish objects on the surface of the sea for a wide radius while the vessel is at a considerable depth. There are 7,000 diamond cutters out of work in Am-

sterdam alone. At a meeting of more than a thousand of them recently heid there. M. Van Prasg attributed the want of work cluedy to the high prices of raw diamonds, and next to the tendency of the jewellers to trade h raw diamonds instead of devoting themselves to their preparation for the market. The speaker counselled sither the establishment of a workingments company, with 500 grinding stones and a capital of 500,000 floring, or the transfer of the trade to London, where the dealers in raw diamonds and the owners of the diamond fields

THE ST. LOUIS BOODLE BILL

New Facts About the Boings of the Local Wirepullers. St. Louis, Dec. 30,-Developments of a startling kind occurred among the St. Louis bondlers to-day. The latest story outlines the attempt to extort money from the Gas Trust on the promise that the Mayor's action could be controlled. On last Thursday Ed Butler, a local politician, called upon Jini Campbell, a

broker and large stockholder in the Gas Trust Butler has pretended to be on the side of the trust in the fight. The boodle and bill was discussed, and Campbell said it was his opinion that the bill would be signed by the Mayor. Then Butler said that Mayor Noo an could be induced to veto it. Campbell stopped and induced to veto it. Campbell thought for a minute, and then Butler unfolded his tale.

He said that he had been sent to Campbell as the representative of John B. WMears, who was closer to Mayor Noonan than any other man in town. He had supported Two and through the campaign and had been his chies worker. He could talk to the Mayler on any

through the campaign and had been his chieg worker. He could talk to the May's on any subject, and was prepared to settle the fate of this gas bill if the Laclede people wanted to kill it. Then Butler said:

"A veto can be secured, but if you people wanted to kill it. Then Butler said:

"A veto can be secured but if you people want it you will have to pay more than \$150,000 for it, because the other side has offered that much for his signature."

Campbell did not give Butler a definite answer. Butler was put off for a day or two. In the mean time the Mayor was hearing arguments on the bill, and committees were appearing before him arguing for and against it. It seemed a strange situation. Campbell could not understand it. He had business relations with John B. O'Meara, and could not believe that Mr. O'Meara was that kind of a man, yet Butler said positively that O'Meara had sent him. Campbell wanted to see what would turn up. Something did turn up. and it was a second proposition, and the man who made it is just as well known to the public as Ed Butler. For a reason his name is withheld.

He approached Campbell in his office and asked him if he was not very much afraid that the new company would get in here and take their business away. Campbell said he knew of no such fear. The boodler then said that it was no use trying to influence the Mayor's action. "That," he said, "is settled. The Branham crowd doesn't want that franchise now. When they tried to get it there was a large amount of money in it for them; it was a big deal. But iron has gone up now. They would have to pay big prices for all their pipe, and the advance in the price of iron is so great that it doesn't loave much profit.

"Now, if the Laclede Company will put up a few thousand dollars, just something to pay expenses and leave a little to be distributed among the boys. I can guarantee to you that Branham and his men will not accept that franchise when it is signed, but will decline it and turn it back to the city."

Campbell did not deal with th

Campbell did not deal with the man. He told him the trust was not spending money to defeat the bill; that the Mayor could sign it or not, as he choose, and, further than make a reasonable argument showing the Mayor why it should not be signed, they would not even take any trouble to defeat it at this time.

John II, O'Meara denounces Butler violently, and says he never authorized him to black-mail, and is not trading on his friendship with the Mayor. "Butler came to me," said he, "and wanted me to learn what the Mayor intended doing, as he and Jim Campbell were dealing in gas stocks. I told him I would not use my friendship for any such purpose."

It is now generally believed that the Mayor will sign the "boodle bill."

DEATH OF ALEXANDER HAMILTON

A Grandson of the Famous Statesman and

Friend of Washington. Alexander Hamilton, a grandson of Gen. Alexander Hamilton of Bevolutionary fame. died suddenly at 1 o'clock yesterday morning at his homestead near Irvington. On Sunday he complained of being ill. His wife was no alarmed about him until Sunday night. Dr. J. P. Fulton of Irvington was summoned about midnight, and when he arrived Mr. Hamilton was dead. Death was caused by heart failure. The funeral services will probably be held on

Thursday. Alexander Hamilton was a son of James Alexander Hamilton, the second son of Gen. Alexander Hamilton. He was born in August, Alexander Hamilton. He was born in August, 1816, and was in his 74th year. Like his father, he was a lawyer. His father served in the war of 1812 as Brigade Major and Inspector in the New York State militia. He was Acting Secretary of State under President Jackson in 1829, and Martin Van Buren made him the United States District Attorney for the Southern District of New York. He died in the homestead in Irvington, where his son also died.

Forty-live years ago Alexander Hamilton married Miss Angelica Livingston, a daughter of Major Livingston. She survives him, but they have no children. His nearest relatives are the son and two daughters of his brotherin-law, George L. Schuvier, and his nephew. George S. Bowdoin of the firm of Drexel, Morgan & Co. Mr. Hamilton was President of the Knickerbocker Club. a vestryman of Trinity Church, a trustee of the Astor Library, and a trustee and director of the Liverpool and Globe Insurance Company. At one time he was a law partner of Samuel Lyon. Of late years he has spent most of his time at Irvington. The homestead consists of about eighty-five acres, and it is called Nevis. after the West India island on which Ger. Alexander Hamilton was born on Jan. 11, 1757. 1816, and was in his 74th year. Like his father,

TRIED TO HANG HIS WIFE.

A Policeman's Fight with a Peddler and a CHICAGO, Dec. 30 .- The timely interference

of a policeman prevented the murder of Mrs. Minnie Lenz by her husband, James Lenz, last night. Lenz is a peddler, 31 years of age, and a native of Italy. His wife, Minnie, is a pretty American girl, only 18 years of age, Lenz is very jealous of her, and they quarrelled frequently. While passing the house last evening Policeman Hallihan heard them quarrelling. Entering, he told them they must preserve order, and went away again. He had

serve order, and went away again. He had not gone more than a block when he was startled by the sound of long, piereing shrieks, liunning rapidly back to the house, he found the door locked. The shricks continued to come from the room, and the pollesman broke the door open.

Standing in the middle of the room, trembling with fright, stood Mrs. Lenz. The husband had secured a clothes line and, making a noose at the end, placed it about his wife's neck. As the pollesman entered he was endeavoring to throw the other end of the rope over a hook in the wall, preparatory to drawing the woman up and strangling her to death. The pollesman struck him with his club and grappled with him in a tussic for the rope. At this moment a buildor owned by Lenz rushed from the next room and selzed the pollesman by the leg. For a few moments the battle was against the bluecoat, but a little effective work with the club soon disposed of the dog. He station.

Naval Apprentices Desert.

About twenty apprentices of the cruising training ship Portsmouth have taken advantage of the ship's stay at the Brooklyn Navy Yard during the past six weeks to desert. The regulations of the navy make an apprentice a deserter when he overstays his leave ten days. First Lieut. Richard Rush thinks that some of these boys have been induced by their parents these boys have been induced by their parents to give up a senfaring life. He says that no effort is being made to bring back and punish the young offenders. "We don't want such boys," he said. "Those who cannot stay here of their own accord are welcome to go,"

The Portsmouth is under orders to sail for the West indies, where she will cruise for four months, touching at various ports, and returning to Hampton Roads in April. She has a hattery of twelve guns and an enlisted crew of 225, of whom over 100 are apprentices. Appendices get a six months' training aboard the sain, and are then transferred to the regular vessels of the pavy. There are 700 of these appendices, for whom Congress makes an appropriation. The training station at Newport is their headquartors.

He Killed Both Indians.

St. Louis, Dec. 30 .- Word comes from the Indian Territory that two notorious Indian desperadoes named Red Lendall and Choctav Pete, heavily loaded with tanglefoot, took possession of Tishwawa on Christmas tand carried things with a high hand. After nearly killing the town marshal when he attempted to arrest them, they emptied a drug store and tried to ride their horses into the hotel. At this juncture a well-armed stranger rode up to the hotel and dismounted. The outlaws ordered him away, and cut the halter of his

ordered him away, and cut the halter of his horse. The stranger remonstrated, whereupon Chectaw Pete covered him with his revolver, and ordered Lendall to disarm him.

As Lendall approached the stranger shot him through the heart. A duel then occurred between Pete and the stranger, and lest was shot through the head and killed. The stranger offered to surrender, but the terrorized citizens felt more like giving him a vote of thanks, and after eating his diner, he letsurely role away. He is supposed to be Winchester Frank, the crack shot and renowned scout.